



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO GREENE COUNTY MEN PLEAD GUILTY TO METH CONSPIRACY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Greene County, Mo., men pleaded guilty in federal court today to participating in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine.

Jeffery Lee Hill, 38, address unknown, and **William O. Watts**, 45, address unknown, both pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to the charge contained in a May 5, 2004, federal indictment. **Hill** and **Watts** both admitted that they participated in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine in Greene County from January 2002 to May 5, 2004.

Under federal statutes, the two co-defendants could each be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 million. Sentencing hearings will be scheduled after the completion of presentence investigations by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly R. Weber Dean. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Springfield, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow